



VELO-TOURING
EuroActivity
Since 1991 • 20+ Years Experience!

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Bike Tour No 14

Budapest - Lake Balaton Round Trip - Budapest

The great Balaton cycling road – all around the lake

With arriving & departure from Budapest

- Independent (Self-Guided) tour -

Duration: 7 days / 6 nights

Length: approx. 135-144 bikemiles / 215-229 kms

Stage Character: You keep riding by bicycle mainly on the wonderful bike road with signs around Lake Balaton. The North and East shore of the “Hungarian See” has flat stages and hillside routes. But the south and the west shore is completely flat. It is a cycling tour that can be accomplished without difficulty, also for families and for seniors. A dream-tour for all participants. (Level 1.)

During the cycling tour you get acquainted with the most **famous Holiday Resort** of Hungary. Lake Balaton is the **biggest natural sweet-water lake in Europe** with water surface of 600 square kms (232 square mile). The length of the shoreline is approximately 200 kms (**125 miles**). While the southern shore of the lake is known for its **shallow water beaches** and its spectacular **panorama**. One of the many reasons why so many tourists choose the southern shore to see the marvellous **sunset** behind the hills, the northern shore has hills and the most beautiful region with its meadows, forests and ravines. The area is well known for its **white wines** therefore nice vineyards surround it. After 7 kms (4 miles) of cycling the World’s third largest **thermal lake, Hévíz** can be reached. The place is known as a medical centre from the time of the Roman emperors. **June**, when fruit trees are flowering, is a very romantic part of the year to come and ride a bike through this area.

DETAILS – Tour Overview & Services

Day 1 – ARRIVAL TO BUDAPEST – Individual arrival in Budapest. Overnight in Hotel of Budapest.

Day 2 – ALONG THE SOUTHERN SHORE OF THE HUNGARIAN SEE – Meeting with the Driver of the transport-van at the reception of your hotel. The transfer bus takes you to the south side of the Lake Balaton (approx. 1 hour) Handing over the bikes, adjustment and start. You cycle on the flat south lakeside. Panoramic view and chance for swimming on the way.
(Stage: 29 miles / 46 km)

Day 3 – THE CAPITAL OF THE BALATON ON THE WEST SHORE – Cycling on the south lakeside and swimming if possible. You cycle first towards the northern lakeside and then to the “capital of the Balaton” – Keszthely.
(Stage: 31 miles / 50 km)

Day 4 – TWO WONDERS: TAKING A BATH AND CYCLING – We recommend to do a walking in the downtown of Keszthely and/or to make a short bike trip to the thermal lake of Hévíz where you can enjoy Europe’s largest thermal lake with a water temperature of (30/34 C). Early afternoon we start off riding along the northern lakeside, passing by some amazing dormant volcanoes, splendid panorama and wonderful vineyards.
(Stage: 19 or 28 miles / 30 or 44 km)

VELO-TOURING - Guided bicycle and walking tours, discovery trips, study tours, custom tours, business trips

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Day 5 – ALONG THE NORTHERN SHORE – Last chance to take a look at the tuff organ pipes on the Badacsony hill. Continue towards Eastern and the peninsula Tihany ahead of us. The peninsula is very rich in sights and attractions. After the visit the last 5 biking miles begin until we reach Balatonfüred (thermal-spa resort). There are 5 springs and also a beautiful park located near the harbour. *(Stage: 33 miles / 52 km)*

Day 6 – FROM NORTH TO EAST SHORE – Our last day cycling day has been started. Cycling along the northeast bay of the Lake Balaton. The Holy Right Chapel with its gold mosaics is located in Balatonalmádi. During this stage you will pass by an impressive yellow soil wall. We say goodbye to our bikes in Balatonakarattya, we won't see them anymore. The transfer bus is ready to take you together to our hotel in Budapest. (1 hour). Accommodation again in Budapest. *(Stage: 23 miles / 37 km)*

Day 7 – After breakfast individual departure or staying for extra nights.

Included:

- 6 Nights B&B, accommodation in comfortable hotels or guesthouses in double or twin rooms with private facilities (shower / WC)
- There and back transport Budapest-Lake Balaton-Budapest with private coach.
- Service following bus for luggage transport from hotel to hotel
- Special bike transporting trailer for the bicycles and spare bikes
- Technical assistance in the accommodation (morning & evening) by the driver the luggage transport-vehicle.
- Emergency phone number for extreme cases along the way.
- Bicycle atlas “Balaton” (-ring binder-) for deposit or to sell for 15 EURO (book it before the trip)
- Information sheets for all rooms.
- A special service: the service van escorts the cyclists on the route every day, so that in case of technical problems after a call his via emergency cell (mobile-) phone the driver quickest possible can be help for you. (see more still below)

Price of bike tour	EUR	Price of extra night/s in Budapest	EUR
<u>per person:</u>		<u>per person per night (with Breakfast)</u>	
in double room:	498.00	in double room:	39.00
single room supplement:	96.00	in single room:	56.00
bike rental:	48.00		

Bike rental includes:

- Usage of one of our 28“ male/female touring bikes with Shimano 21-gear system, and two-sided bike bags during the cycling days.
- 7-gears ladies’ bikes and 3-gears men’s bikes with coaster-brakes are available upon request (advance reservation needed!)
- Technical assistance and immediate repair, and/or spare bike during the tour.
- 20“, 24“, and 26“ children’s bikes, „Tag-a-Longs“, as well as bicycle trailers for babies became also available

Informations about the Follower-Van - the Technical Service

The driver of the van, however, is not just a chauffeur! The Follower-Van carries your luggage from hotel to hotel and brings some spare-bikes too. For even more safety along the way is the Driver of the van equipped with mobile (cell-) phones. The daily biking routes cross again and again the way of the Follower-Van. The van follows the cyclists without coming in sight or disturbing. It has the tools, spare parts and a travel pharmacy, additional bike bags on board. The driver help repair the failures with the bikes - he is ready to help for you ! The two bus transfers inserted at the tour these also make it possible to make a there and back transport to the starting point. During the transfers the Driver of the van carries your bikes in the special bike-transporting trailer.